

REMARKS

In the May 16, 2007 Office Action, claims 1-8, 10-12, and 15-17 were rejected, claims 18, 19, 21-24, 29, 38, and 40-42 were allowed, and claims 13 and 14 were deemed objectionable. This Response amends claims 10 and 14, and cancels claims 1-8, 12, 13, 25-28, and 32-37 without prejudice or disclaimer. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 10, 11, 14-19, 21-24, 29, 38, and 40-42 (17 total claims; 7 independent claims; no additional claim fees due) remain pending in the application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicant appreciates the acknowledgement that claims 18, 19, 21-24, 29, 38, and 40-42 are allowable. The Office Action states that claims 13 and 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In this regard, independent claim 10 has been amended to include all of the limitations of claim 13 (which has been canceled). There being no intervening claims between previously presented claims 10 and 13, amended claim 10 is now allowable. Moreover, claims 11, and 15-17 (which variously depend from claim 10) are also allowable. Similarly, claim 14 has been amended to include all of the limitations of previously presented independent claim 10. There being no intervening claims between previously presented claims 10 and 14, amended claim 14 is now allowable.

In the spirit of expedited prosecution and for consistency with amended claims 10 and 14, claims 1-8, 12, and 13 have been canceled (without prejudice or disclaimer). Withdrawn claims 25-28 and 32-37 have also been canceled to expedite prosecution.

In conclusion, for the reasons given above, all claims now presently in the application are believed allowable and such allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to further discuss this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at (480) 385-5060.

If for some reason Applicant has not requested a sufficient extension and/or has not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent abandonment on this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

INGRASSIA FISHER & LORENZ

Dated: July 9, 2007

By: /MARK TAKAHASHI, REG. NO. 38,631/
Mark M. Takahashi
Reg. No. 38,631
(480) 385-5060